

Message Text

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63

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EEC, UK

SUBJECT: "FINANCIAL TIMES" ARTICLE ON THE EC INSTITUTIONS

1. THE "FINANCIAL TIME" OF SEPTEMBER 26 CONTAINS AN ARTICLE BY ITS BRUSSELS CORRESPONDENT (REGINALD DALE) ON THE CURRENT EVOLUTION OF THE EC INSTITUTIONS. IT IS A PERCEPTIVE, BALANCED ANALYSIS THAT IS WELL WORTH READING.

2. ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE "FINANCIAL TIMES" IS READILY AVAILABLE TO ADDRESSEES, WE WILL NOT TRY TO SUMMARIZE THE ARTICLE IN DETAIL. ITS MAIN POINT IS THAT THE COMMUNITY IS NOW MORE THAN EVER LAUNCHED IN AN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL, CONFEDERAL DIRECTION, WITH THE EC PRESIDENCY PLAYING AN INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE. THE NEW SET-UP MAY BE FAR REMOVED FROM THE VISION OF THE COMMUNITY'S FOUNDING FATHERS, BUT THIS "PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM, WITH ITS CLEAR ADMISSION THAT IT IS GOVERNMENTS ACTING ON CONSENSUS THAT RUN THE COMMUNITY, IS A LOT MORE HONEST AND LESS

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HYPOCRITICAL THAN PAST PRETENSES. IT SHOULD MAKE IT PLAN TO

EVERYONE THAT IT IS NOT SOME MYTHICAL GROUP OF BRUSSELS
BUREAUCRATS WHICH IS REALLY IN CHARGE OF OUR AFFAIRS."

3. THE QUESTION IS WHETHER THE NEW SYSTEM WILL WORK -- "WHETHER
THIS SORT OF MORE FLEXIBLE COOPERATION WILL PROVE CAPABLE OF
TACKLING THE MAJOR ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS THAT EUROPE MUST
SOLVE IF IT IS TO MAINTAIN ITS PROSPERITY AND INFLUENCE IN THE
MODERN WORLD."
ANNENBERG

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